

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): ~~[[An]]~~ A video processing apparatus, comprising:  
a memory configured to store a set of distinct information items; and  
an information retrieval system in which ~~[[a]]~~ the set of distinct information items map to respective nodes in an array of nodes by mutual similarity of the information items, so that similar information items map to nodes at similar positions in the array of nodes~~[[:]]~~, the information retrieval system comprising: includes  
a user control ~~for defining~~ configured to define a search criterion for selecting information items,  
a detector ~~for detecting~~ configured to detect those positions within the array of nodes corresponding to the selected information items, and  
a graphical user interface ~~for displaying~~ configured to display display points which are at positions within a display area on a user display,  
the graphical user interface also displaying in a sequence in time a plurality of representations of the selected information items.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): A ~~system~~ video processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the graphical user interface is operable to display a two-dimensional display array of said display points.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): A ~~system~~ video processing apparatus according to claim 2, in which the mapping between information items and nodes in the array includes a dither component so that substantially identical information items tend to map to closely spaced but different positions in the array.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): A ~~system~~ video processing apparatus according to claim 1, in which the information items are mapped to nodes in the array on the basis of a feature vector derived from each information item.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A ~~system~~ video processing apparatus according to claim 4, in which the feature vector for an information item represents a set of frequencies of occurrence, within that information item, of each of a group of information features.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A ~~system~~ video processing apparatus according to claim 5, in which the information items comprise textual information, the feature vector for an information item represents a set of frequencies of occurrence, within that information item, of each of a group of words.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A ~~system~~ video processing apparatus according to claim 1, in which the information items comprise textual information, the nodes being mapped by mutual similarity of at least a part of the textual information.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A ~~system~~ video processing apparatus according to claim 6, in which the information items are pre-processed for mapping by excluding words occurring with more than a threshold frequency amongst the set of information items.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A ~~system~~ video processing apparatus according to claim 6, in which the information items are pre-processed for mapping by excluding words occurring with less than a threshold frequency amongst the set of information items.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): A ~~system~~ video processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the said user control comprises:

search means for carrying out a search of the information items;

the search means and the graphical user interface being arranged to co-operate so that only those display points corresponding to information items selected by the search are displayed on the user display.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A ~~system~~ video processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the said sequence in time is a serial visual presentation of the said representations.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): A ~~system~~ video processing apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the said representations are displayed one at a time in sequence in the same display zone.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): A ~~system~~ video processing apparatus according to claim 11, wherein a plurality of said representations are displayed at the same time in respective display zones.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): A ~~system~~ video processing apparatus according to claim 11, wherein a plurality of streams of representations are displayed at the same time in respective display zones.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): A ~~system~~ video processing apparatus according to claim 11, comprising a further user control for selecting a said representation, and causing the display of information related to the selected representation.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): A ~~system~~ video processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the said representation comprise images.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): A ~~system~~ video processing apparatus according to claim 1, where the said representations comprise text.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): A ~~system~~ video processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the said representation comprises links to the information items represented thereby.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): A portable data processing device comprising a ~~system~~ video processing apparatus according to claim 1.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): A video acquisition and/or processing apparatus comprising a ~~system~~ video processing apparatus according to claim 1.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): An information retrieval method for a video processing apparatus in which a set of distinct information items map to respective nodes in an array of nodes by mutual similarity of the information items, so that similar information items map to nodes at similar positions in the array of nodes, the method comprising the steps of:

defining a search criterion for selecting information items;  
detecting those positions within the array of nodes corresponding to the selected information items; and  
displaying display points which are at positions within a display area on a user display corresponding to the selected information items;  
the graphical user interface also displaying in a sequence in time a plurality of representations of the selected information items.

Claim 22 (Original): A method according to claim 21, wherein the step of displaying displays a two-dimensional display array of said display points.

Claim 23 (Original): A method according to claim 21, wherein the said sequence in time is a serial visual presentation of the said representations.

Claim 24 (Original): A method according to claim 21, further comprising a further user control for selecting a said representation, and causing the display of information related to the selected representation.

Claim 25 (Original): Computer software having program code for carrying out a method according to claim 21.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended): A storage ~~providing~~ medium for providing program code according to claim 25.

Claim 27 (Original): A medium according to claim 26, the medium being a storage medium.

Claim 28 (Canceled).

Claim 29 (Currently Amended): A user interface of a video processing apparatus having a memory that stores a set of distinct information items and an information retrieval system in which a set of distinct information items map to respective nodes in an array of nodes by mutual similarity of the information items, so that similar information items map to nodes at similar positions in the array of nodes, the interface comprising:

a user control for defining a search criterion for selecting information items; and

a graphical user interface having a display area arranged to display points which are at positions within a display area corresponding to the selected information items, and a display area arranged to display in a sequence in time a plurality of representations of the selected information items.

Claim 30 (Original): A user interface according to claim 29, wherein graphical user interface displays a two-dimensional display array of said display points.

Claim 31 (Original): A user interface according to claim 29, wherein the said sequence in time is a serial visual presentation of the said representations.

Claim 32 (Original): A user interface according to claim 29, further comprising a further user control for selecting a said representation, and causing the display of information related to the selected representation.

Claim 33 (Original): A user interface according to claim 29, further comprising a user control for applying further search criteria to the search.

Claim 34 (Original): A user interface according to claim 29, further comprising a presentation control for controlling the presentation of the said sequence of representations.